

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Albania

DATE DISTR. 11 JAN 50

SUBJECT General Albanian Domestic Information

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. In order to establish their identity, Albanians must at all times, carry their identity card "Letra Miftimi" with them. All persons reaching the age of 12 are required to have an identity card. The card has a red cover. The cover page has at the top a red star and in the center the words "Letra Miftimi" in black. There are three pages; on the first is contained the photograph of the holder, and his signature. On the second page there is a personal description and the third page is blank. The identity cards are issued by Town Hall officials; their validity is not clear yet. They were issued in 1945 without being recalled. Aliens are supplied with special identity cards which differ from the regular identity cards. They have nine inner pages; on the first there is a personal description of the holder as well as his photograph, and the other pages are used for entries by the police for changes and travel. In order to travel within Albania, aliens must declare their intention to the police.

2. In the distribution of food and clothing, the following are eligible to receive rationed items:

- a. Communists.
- b. Those working in state enterprises or those who are civil servants.
- c. Farmers who surrender their crops to the cooperative.

The families of the above categories are also entitled to rationed items but they receive only 50 per cent of that which the head of the family receives (this is only a "part ration" and is given to wives and children under 10). Those not working and farmers who do not turn in their produce to the collective are not entitled to rations.

3. For the distribution of food, there are four categories. Ration books of various colors, one for each category, are used. These are valid generally for one year and are used throughout the country.

- a. First Category: Foodstuffs (for Communists) issued include 750 grams of bread per day. However, this ration book is replaced every three months. For the acquisition of other food items special "blocks of coupons" have been issued bearing the stamp and signature of the secretary of the Party on each coupon. This gives the holder the right to receive rations from any cooperative.

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

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- b. Second Category: Workers employed in heavy industry and farmers who surrender their produce to the cooperatives receive rations on the basis of their ration card, each coupon of which carries the amount of each item per month (including bread), the date and the daily amount authorized. Allowances are as follows:

750 grams of bread daily - (cost 5½ Lek)
 ½ kilo of sugar
 50 grams of coffee
 300 grams of soap
 1 kilo of flour
 1 kilo beans or ¾ kilo of macaroni
 ½ kilo of oil

- c. Third Category: Workers employed in government-controlled enterprises and civil service employees receive:

600 grams of bread daily
 50 grams of coffee
 400 grams of sugar
 300 grams of soap
 1 kilo of beans
 400 grams of oil

- d. Fourth Category: Includes the members of a family, who receive one-half ration (or ½ of that which the head of the family receives). They draw the ration only when they are not members of a cooperative mess; if they are members of a cooperative mess, they have to surrender their ration coupons and pay from 1,200 to 1,300 lek per month.

4. In order to receive rations at a government-controlled mess or restaurant, the customer must be in the possession of a special pass. Such a pass is issued to members of the Communist Party who are actively engaged in work for the government, regardless of whether or not they are married. Drivers need only show their driver's license. There are other restaurants where anyone can eat without a special pass, the only difference being that the prices are double those of the government-controlled messes.

5. For the distribution of clothing, a clothing ration card is issued. Those who are entitled to draw food rations are also entitled to clothing rations. There are three categories:

- a. First Category: Those belonging to the Communist Party and those employed in heavy industry. They are allowed 120 points per year. With these 120 points they can buy:

One suit
 Two shirts
 Two undershirts
 One pair of shoes

They have the right to choose the quality as long as they pay the appropriate price. First quality shoes cost 2,950 lek while the lowest quality shoes cost 2,000 lek.

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